



CITY OF NEW BRITAIN

EST. 1871

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
THE HONORABLE ERIN E. STEWART

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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NEW BRITAIN ENACTS MEASURES TO COMBAT CORONAVIRUS

NEW BRITAIN— Mayor Erin Stewart announced several proactive measures on Friday aimed at combating the spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19). These initial measures include the closure of New Britain Public Schools, the suspension of several programs at the Senior Center, and institution of a city-wide curfew for unsupervised youth.

The Consolidated School District of New Britain will close all public schools beginning Monday, March 16 and extending until Monday, March 30. Free grab and go meals will be available to students for pick up at New Britain High School, Smith Elementary School, Smalley Elementary School, Pulaski Middle School, and from a food truck at A.W. Stanley Park. Breakfast will be available from 8:30 a.m. to 10 a.m. and lunch from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. These meals will be available for New Britain Public School students. During the closure, all schools will undergo a thorough deep cleaning. Consolidated School District of New Britain students have been instructed and will be encouraged to participate in remote learning from home.

The curfew will take effect immediately. As coronavirus (COVID-19) has been declared a public health emergency, the city will be taking all essential steps to prevent unnecessary social gatherings. Unsupervised youth 16 and under will not be allowed out past 10 p.m. Officers who come across any youth in violation of the curfew have been instructed to perform a wellness check, investigate the incident, and assist in getting the child back to their home.

The Senior Center will be cancelling all recreational programs beginning Monday, March 16. Lunch, the tax assistance program, and Dial a Ride for medical and grocery shopping purposes will still be available.

Several upcoming community events have been postponed, including the New Britain PAL 5K run; the Parks and Recreational Department's basketball championship game and the TRIAD breakfast.

"While there are no confirmed positive cases in New Britain, we are doing everything that we can to stop the cycle of spreading the virus," said Mayor Stewart. "I have been meeting regularly with my Emergency Management Team and talking frequently with decision makers and stakeholders at the local, state, and federal level. We feel confident in our approach and we feel prepared to handle whatever comes our way."

Mayor Stewart continued, "Everyone has to be involved in our efforts to suppress the spread of this virus. Everything we are doing is to stop the cycle - stay home, and think beyond yourself."

If you're feeling sick or have questions regarding COVID-19, please call the Hartford HealthCare Hotline: 860.972.8100 or text "COVID19" to 31996.

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